DATE: **OCT 4 1971**

To : Dean Rich

FROM : J Lederberg, as Princ. Inv., ACME

SUBJECT: Computer management in medical school

I just wanted to add my own concern about the urgency of the issues raised by Elliott Levinthal in his recent memo.

Rather a lot is at stake -- our ability to sustain a facility of some importance in medical education perhaps should be the most compelling to you.

The time-pressure is indicated, in part, by our need to formulate and submit a credible plan for future development by January 1, 1972. This is an already several times postponed deadline for renewal of our ACME support grants from NIH. As much as $1 M per annum in potential support is at stake.

Involved are issues of hospital and medical-care management that far exceed my insight and authority. A pivotal issue, as Elliott pointed out, is the appointment of a professor of "medical information systems" to assume that kind of responsibility, on the academic side, and to complement the managerial evolutions of the Medical Center.

Cordially

cc: ECL